

From the Editor

Now that the commemoration of World War II is well under way, we will have opportunity to recall those campaigns and actions which culminated in victory. For the professional soldier, it requires little reflection to realize that a good many of the challenges that confronted leaders during those days are as relevant today as they were 50 years ago.

During the preparations for Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, planners turned to the experiences of both Allied and Axis forces in desert operations. Likewise, the experience of the Buna Campaign of 1942-43 contributed to the training, medical support, and logistical systems that later supported our forces in Korea and Vietnam. Perhaps the most precious of the lessons to be gleaned from World War II was the revelation of those tactics and operating procedures which had led to disproportionate casualties as at Buna.

In the coming months, we will be drawing upon sources in our archives to provide you with the historical perspectives that are essential to the professional development of the force. Prominent among these will be the accounts of night operations—successful and unsuccessful—that made the difference between victory and defeat. Owning the night is no longer a luxury; it is an imperative if we are to continue to dominate the battlefield. INFANTRY will keep you up to date on the latest doctrinal, training, and materiel developments that affect this dimension of combat.

We've told you what INFANTRY will do in the coming issues; now here's what you can do. Write to us. Tell us what you like. Tell us what you think needs to be improved. Most of all, write and submit material for publication. The submissions need not be long. INFANTRY has a diverse format that will accommodate everything from short training tips and Swap Shop pieces to long feature articles. While we cannot promise that every submission will be published, we can assure you that we will read every one and provide feedback. What we want are your ideas and input, not necessarily flawlessly written papers. If you have something innovative, useful, or relevant to say, we want to help you get it into print.

This is your branch bulletin; let's work together to keep it the single best source of information for Infantrymen around the world.

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